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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,610	10/31/2003	Marc Gandar	M2006-700010	9895

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EXAMINER	
TIV, BACKHEAN	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2151	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/698,610	GANDAR, MARC	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Backhean Tiv	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 December 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *12/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The IDS filed on 12/31/04 has been considered.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-9 are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per claims 1-9, recites limitations that refer back to the specification, e.g. communication circuit (C), address (X1,...,XJ), master device (M), etc.; the applicant is advised to amend the claims and take out the representation of each element, e.g. communication circuit, address, master device, etc.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 6, the term "is likely" is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "is likely" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,513,324 issued to Dolin, Jr. et al.(Dolin).

As per claim 1, Dolin teaches a method for exchanging information frames over a network (N) between devices (D), each device comprising a communication circuit (C) connected to a processing unit (PA) and comprising addresses (XI, ..., Xj)(Figs.1,4), each address being associated with a transmission or reception indicator(Fig.9), a single device comprising a same address associated with a transmission indicator, wherein each address is associated with a memory containing an information frame that can be modified and/or read by the processing unit(Fig.9, col.6, lines 46-53, col.7, lines

44-61), and comprising the steps of:

having a master device (M) periodically transmit addresses(Abstract, col.1, lines 20-30); having the communication circuit of the device for which the address transmitted by the master device is associated with a transmission indicator transmit the information frame contained in the memory associated with said address and provide the processing unit with an identifier (I) of said address(Fig.9, col.14, line 37-col.15, line 12); and having each communication circuit of a device for which the address transmitted by the master device is associated with a reception indicator write into the memory associated with said address of said information frame and provide the processing unit with an identifier (I) of said address(Fig.9, col.7, lines 44-col.8, lines 65).

As per claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein the processing units (PA), except for the processing unit of the master device (M), can neither read nor modify the addresses (XI, ..., Xj) and the transmission and/or reception indicators of the communication circuits (C) to which they are connected(Fig.1,4, col.14, lines 36-49).

As per claim 3, the method of claim 1, wherein all.communication circuits (C) further comprise a first address (Xj+2) identical for all devices (D) and associated with a transmission indicator and a second address (Xj+I) identical for all devices and associated with a reception indicator(Fig.9), the connection of a new device (D') to the network (N) comprising the steps of: having the master device (M) periodically transmit the first address(fig.9, Abstract, col.1, lines 20-30); having the communication circuit (C) of the new device, upon reception of the first address, transmit an identification frame (CS Transmission)(Fig.9,col.9, lines 1-67); having the master device

successively transmit the second address and a parameterizing frame (CS_Reception) defined based on the identification frame(col.10, lines 1-67); having the communication circuit of the new device, upon successive reception of the second address and of the parameterizing frame, modify its addresses (Xl, ..., Xj) and reception and/or transmission indicators based on the parameterizing frame(col.8, lines 41-50).

As per claim 4, the method of claim 3, wherein each device (D) comprises a specific identification number (U) stored in the communication circuit (C), the identification frame (CS_Transmission) transmitted by the communication circuit of the new device (D') comprising the specific identification number of said new device, the parameterizing frame (CS_Reception) transmitted by the master device (M) comprising the specific identification number of said new device(Fig.9, col.15, lines 1-67).

As per claim 5, the method of claim 3, wherein the communication circuit (C) of the new device (D') transmits no data as long as it has not received the first address (Xj+2)(col.13, lines 33-60).

As per claim 6, the method of claim 3, wherein the communication circuit (C) of each device (D) comprises a privilege indicator (Privilege Bit P) at a first value when the device is likely to transmit addresses (Xl, ..., XN) over the network (N) and at a second value otherwise, said privilege indicator being set to the first or to the second value by the communication circuit of the new device (D') based (CS_Reception)(col.13, lines 33-60).

As per claim 7, a device (D) network (N), comprising a on the parameterizing frame intended to be connected to a communication circuit (C) and connected to a

processing unit (PA), comprising an address table (Address), a register table (Data), each register (RI, ..., Rj) in the register table being associated with an address (XI, ... Xj) in the address table and a direction table(Fig.9) comprising one direction indicator per address, said processing unit being capable of reading information frames stored into the registers or writing information frames in the registers(col.6, lines 46-53,col.7, lines 44-62), said communication circuit being capable, upon reception of a request received from the network and corresponding to one of said addresses, of transmitting over the network the information frame stored in the register associated with said address if the corresponding direction indicator is of a first determined type, or of writing an information frame received from the network into the register associated with said address if the corresponding direction indicator is of a second determined type, and being capable of transmitting to the processing unit an identifier of the register associated with said address(col.8, lines 1-col.9, lines 67).

As per claim 8, the device (D) of claim 7, wherein the address table (Address) comprises a first address (Xj+2) identical for all the devices connected to the network (N), the direction table (Direction) comprising a direction indicator associated with said first address of the first type, the communication circuit (C) of the device being adapted to transmitting said addresses (XI, ... Xj) and the associated direction indicators over the network (N) upon reception of said first address(Fig.9).

As per claim 9, the device (D) of claim 8, wherein the address table (Address) comprises a second address (Xj+I) identical for all circuits connected to the network (N), the direction table (Direction) comprising a direction indicator associated with said

second address of the second type, and being capable, upon successive reception of the second address and of a parameterizing frame (CS_Reception), of modifying the addresses (Xl, ..., Xj) and the associated direction indicators based on the parameterizing frame(col.14, lines 5-19).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Backhean Tiv whose telephone number is (571) 272-5654. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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2151
6/19/07

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